

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 OC-06 CCO-00  
OMB-01 SY-05 OPR-02 SCS-06 CA-01 /091 W  
-----108051 231936Z /45

R 231009Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8897

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1146

FOLLOWING CABLE SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO CALCUTTA MADRAS  
FROM BOMBAY JAN 20, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 0188

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, IN

SUBJECT: GOM STAFF STRIKE: JANUARY 24 "MAHARASHTRA BANDH"

REF: BOMBAY 0131

1. WHILE THE STRIKE ENTERED THE THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY, JANUARY 20,  
(THUS BREAKING THE 37-DAY RECORD IN 1975), PREPARATIONS ARE BEING  
MADE FOR THE PROPOSED "MAHARASHTRA BANDH" ON JANUARY 24. IN AN  
ATTEMPT TO BOOST THE STRIKERS' MORALE, DAILY PUBLIC MEETINGS UNTIL  
THE BANDH BSY HAVE BEEN PLANNED AT VARIOUS PLACES IN THE STATE.  
THOSE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BANDH ARE APPROXIMATELY  
FOUR MILLION MUNICIPAL TRANSPORT (BEST), HOTEL, BANK, INSURANCE,  
TEXTILE AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL WORKERS. (ESSENTIAL SERVICES LIKE  
HOSPITALS AND AMBULANCES, WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE BRIGADES ARE  
EXEMPTED). RELIABLE LABOR SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT SUBURBAN  
RAILWAY EMPLOYEES ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE BANDH. (ALTHOUGH  
THE RAILWAY UNIONS SYMPATHIZE WITH THE STRIKERS, WE UNDERSTAND  
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THAT THEY DO NOT WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BANDH, WHICH IS ONLY  
A LOCAL AND NOT REPEAT NOT AN ALL-INDIA ISSUE.)

2. VERY SURPRISEINGLY, MAHARASHTRA ASSEMBLY SPEAKER AND  
VETERAN CONGRESS LEADER D.S. DESAI RESIGNED BOTH HIS  
LEGISLATIVE POSITION AS WELL AS CONGRESS PARTY MEMBERSHIP ON  
JANUARY 19 AND CAME OUT OPENING IN SUPPORT OF THE STRIKERS. THIS

COULD FURTHER BOOST THE STRIKERS' MORALE CONSIDERING DESAI'S  
LONG INNINGS IN THE GOVERNMENT AS A SENIOR CABINET MEMBER.

3. STRIKE LEADER KARNIK TOLD US THAT "THE STRIKERS ARE KEEN THAT  
GOM SEES WISDOM AND SETTLES THE DISPUTE BEFORE JANUARY 24,  
BUT SUCH A POSSIBILITY IS BLEAK." COURTNEY UNQUOTE  
GOHEEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR STRIKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978NEWDE01146  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780034-0304  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BOMBAY 131  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3731083  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOM STAFF STRIKE: JANUARY 24 \"MAHARASHTRA BANDH\"  
**TAGS:** ELAB, IN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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